

## **Element Performance Inspection (EPI)**

### **3.2.1 Dispatch / Flight Release (OP)**

#### **Purpose of this Element (Air Carrier's responsibility):**

To dispatch or release a flight safely in accordance with their policies and procedures.

#### **Objective (FAA responsibility):**

To determine if the Air Carrier adheres to its written procedures and controls for the Dispatch / Flight Release process, and if the established performance measures are met.

#### **Specific Instructions for this EPI:**

To accomplish this EPI, the inspector should be familiar with the Air Carrier's Dispatch / Flight Release software and Dispatch / Flight Release procedures.

**Task 4.** Appropriate personnel are dispatchers, including dispatch supervisors, system administrator, software personnel, etc.

#### **Related EPIs:**

- 1.1.2 Appropriate Operational Equipment (OP)
- 3.2.2 Flight / Load Manifest / Weight and Balance Control (OP)
- 3.2.3 MEL / CDL Procedures (OP)
- 5.1.6 Use of Approved Areas, Routes and Airports (OP)
- 6.1.4 Dispatcher Duty / Rest Time (OP)

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*To meet this objective, the inspector will accomplish the following tasks (at the inspection locations where applicable):*

1. Review the FAA Guidance and Specific Regulatory Requirements (SRR) included in the supplemental information section of this EPI.
2. Review the associated SAI, with emphasis on the Controls Attribute section.
3. Review the Manual related to the Dispatch / Flight Release process.
4. Discuss Dispatch / Flight Release procedures with the appropriate personnel.
5. Observe and assess the results of the Dispatch / Flight Release process.
6. Observe and assess appropriate records of the Dispatch / Flight Release process.

*To meet this objective, the inspector will answer the following questions:*

1. Were the following performance measures met:

<i>1.1 All required safety related information was provided to the Pilot in Command.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
<i>1.2 The Flight Release package was complete and accurate.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
<i>1.3 The flight was released with the required fuel.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
<i>1.4 Departure, destination, and alternate airports met weather requirements at time of release.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
2. Were the Dispatch / Flight Release procedures followed?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
3. Were the Dispatch / Flight Release controls followed?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
4. Were the Dispatch / Flight Release records maintained in accordance with the Air Carrier's procedures?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, explain:
5. <Deleted>		

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#### **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

##### **SRRs:**

- 14 CFR 121.97 (a, b), "Airports: Required data (Domestic and Flag Operations)."
- 14 CFR 121.101 (a-d), "Weather reporting facilities."
- 14 CFR 121.117 (a, b), "Airports: Required data. Supplemental Operations."
- 14 CFR 121.107, "Dispatch centers."
- 14 CFR 121.119 (a, b), "Weather reporting facilities."
- 14 CFR 121.125 (a, b), "Flight following system."
- 14 CFR 121.127 (a, b), "Flight following system; requirements."
- 14 CFR 121.551, "Restriction or suspension of operation: Domestic and flag operations."
- 14 CFR 121.553, "Restriction or suspension of operation: Supplemental operations."
- 14 CFR 121.593, "Dispatching authority: Domestic operations."
- 14 CFR 121.595 (a, b), "Dispatching authority: Flag operations."
- 14 CFR 121.597 (a-c), "Flight release authority: Supplemental operations."
- 14 CFR 121.599 (a, b), "Familiarity with weather conditions."
- 14 CFR 121.601 (a-c), "Aircraft dispatcher information to pilot in command: domestic and flag operations."
- 14 CFR 121.609, "Communication and navigation facilities: supplemental operations."
- 14 CFR 121.611, "Dispatch or flight release under VFR."
- 14 CFR 121.613, "Dispatch or flight release under IFR or over the top."
- 14 CFR 121.615 (a-d), "Dispatch or flight release over water: Flag and supplemental operations."
- 14 CFR 121.617 (a-c), "Alternate airport for departure."
- 14 CFR 121.619 (a-c), "Alternate airport for destination: IFR or over the top: Domestic operations."
- 14 CFR 121.621 (a-c), "Alternate airport for destination: Flag operations."
- 14 CFR 121.623 (a-d), "Alternate airport for destination; IFR or over the top: Supplemental operations."
- 14 CFR 121.625, "Alternate airport weather minimums."
- 14 CFR 121.629 (a), "Operation in icing conditions."
- 14 CFR 121.631 (a-d), "Original dispatch or flight release, redispach or amendment of dispatch or flight release."
- 14 CFR 121.635, "Dispatch to and from refueling or provisional airports: Domestic and flag operations."
- 14 CFR 121.637 (a, b), "Takeoffs from unlisted and alternate airports: Domestic and flag operations."
- 14 CFR 121.639 (a-c), "Fuel supply: All domestic operations."
- 14 CFR 121.641 (a, b), "Fuel supply: nonturbine and turbo-propeller-powered airplanes: flag operations."
- 14 CFR 121.643 (a-c), "Fuel supply: nonturbine and turbo-propeller-powered airplanes: supplemental operations."
- 14 CFR 121.645 (a-e), "Fuel supply: Turbine engine powered airplanes, other than turbo propeller: flag and supplemental operations."
- 14 CFR 121.647 (a-d), "Factors for computing fuel required."

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- 14 CFR 121.649 (a-c), “Takeoff and landing weather minimums: VFR: Domestic operations.”
- 14 CFR 121.652 (a-c), “Landing weather minimums: IFR: all certificate holders.”
- 14 CFR 121.663, “Responsibility for dispatch release: Domestic and flag operations.”
- 14 CFR 121.687 (a, b), “Dispatch release: Flag and domestic operations.”
- 14 CFR 121.689 (a-c), “Flight release form: Supplemental operations.”
- 14 CFR 121.695 (a, b), “Disposition of load manifest, dispatch release, and flight plans: Domestic and flag operations.”
- 14 CFR 121.697 (a-e), “Disposition of load manifest, flight release, and flight plans: Supplemental operations.”

#### **Other CFRs and FAA Guidance:**

- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 3, Chap. 1, Sect. 5, Par. 171: C55, “Alternate Airport IFR Weather Minimums.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 3, Chap. 1, Sect. 5, Par. 1153D, “Weather for Flight Release.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 3, Chap. 6, Sect. 1, Par. 1145, “Operational Control, General Topics Background and Definitions.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 3, Chap. 6, Sect. 3, “Part 121 Flight Release Systems and Supplemental Operating Rules.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 3, Chap. 6, Sect. 4, “Part 121 Flag Operations, Supplemental Operations Outside the Contiguous States, and Extended Overwater Operations.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 3, Chap. 7, Sect. 1, Par. 1407, “Policy on Conditional Phrases in Remarks Portion of Weather Forecast.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 3, Chap. 7, Sect. 2, Par. 1423, “Operational Requirements-Flightcrews.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 4, Chap. 4, Sect. 4, Par. 1159, “Discrepancies discovered During Flight.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 6, Chap. 2, Sect. 5, Par. 183, “Part 121 Operator Trip Records Requirements.”
- FAA Order 8400.10, Vol. 6, Chap. 2, Sect. 5, Par. 191, “Specific Inspection Practices and Procedures.”
- Refer to Advisory Circulars using a search engine (such as ATP Navigator or Summit).